



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
SUPERFUND SITE STRATEGY RECOMMENDATION - REGION 06



Site Name: Barbara J#3 Mine - NM0049

CERCLIS ID#: NMN000607310
NMD981600489

Alias Site Name: Fife and Bailey, Barbara Jean No. 3

Address: Latitude 35 degrees 19'53.52" Longitude 107 degrees 49'34.22"

City/County or Parish/State/Zip: McKinley County, New Mexico



648525

Report Type: Pre-CERCLIS Screening

Date: 09/10/09

Author: NMED

RECOMMENDATION:

<input type="checkbox"/> 1. No Further Remedial Action Planned Under Superfund (NFRAP)	<input type="checkbox"/> 2. Further Investigation Needed Under Superfund												
	<table border="0"><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> PA</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> HRS</td><td>Priority: <input type="checkbox"/> High</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> SI</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> RI/FS</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Low</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> ESI</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> RA</td><td></td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Other:</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr></table>	<input type="checkbox"/> PA	<input type="checkbox"/> HRS	Priority: <input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> SI	<input type="checkbox"/> RI/FS	<input type="checkbox"/> Low	<input type="checkbox"/> ESI	<input type="checkbox"/> RA		<input type="checkbox"/> Other:		
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<input type="checkbox"/> ESI	<input type="checkbox"/> RA												
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:													
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3. Action Deferred to: <input type="checkbox"/> RCRA <input type="checkbox"/> NRC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BLM													
<input type="checkbox"/> 4. Site Being Addressed Under the State Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP): <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No													

NOTIFY AUTHORITY:

<input type="checkbox"/> Removal	<input type="checkbox"/> RCRA	<input type="checkbox"/> TSCA	<input type="checkbox"/> CAA	<input type="checkbox"/> SMCRA
<input type="checkbox"/> Remedial	<input type="checkbox"/> State/Tribe	<input type="checkbox"/> NPDES	<input type="checkbox"/> NRC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource Trustee: BLM
<input type="checkbox"/> CERCLA Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Facility	<input type="checkbox"/> UIC	<input type="checkbox"/> SPCC	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
SEND SSSR COPIES TO: <input type="checkbox"/> 6SF-AC <input type="checkbox"/> 6WQ-SP <input type="checkbox"/> ATSDR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Agency				

DISCUSSION:

The New Mexico Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Department, Mine and Minerals Division (MMD) conducted a site assessment on August 30, 2007 at the Barbara J#3 Mine site. The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) conducted a site assessment on July 1, 2009. The mine operated as a wet mine. NMED observed several waste piles, a concrete pad, load-out area, a mine shaft, and a well or vent hole. The well or vent hole was covered by a rusted steel plate but was probed to a depth of 458 feet without hitting a solid bottom. Waste piles are marked by erosional rills meaning waste might have been dispersed downstream. Gamma radiation readings were measured at 1924 counts per second at the load-out area. There are several residences within three miles of the mine site and the closest well is an irrigation well approximately one half of a mile with a total uranium concentration of 48.2 ug/l. The land surface and mineral rights are held by the Bureau of Land Management.

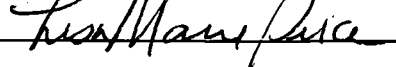
NMED recommended that action be taken at the site to remove waste piles with elevated radioactivity and to plug the open shaft and well/vent holes. NMED also recommended that the mine site be further assessed under CERCLA to characterize the extent of site-derived waste dispersion along the drainages and impacts to groundwater.

In October 2011, EPA conducted an aerial radiological survey in the Poison Canyon area of the Ambrosia Lake sub-district by using the Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology (ASPECT). The Barbara J#3 Mine was included in the ASPECT survey. The gamma radiation readings at the Barbara J#3 Mine site were two to three times statistically greater than background readings in the area.

Pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding between EPA and the New Mexico State Office of the Bureau of Land Management, August 2011, the Barbara J#3 Mine will be addressed by the Bureau of Land Management.

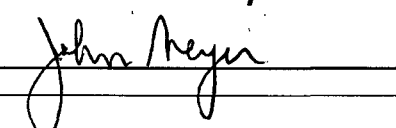
APPROVALS:

Report Reviewed by: Lisa Marie Price
(Site Assessment Manager)

Signature: 

Date: 4/25/11

Disposition
Approved by: John Meyer
(Section Chief 6SF-TR)

Signature: 

Date: 11/29/11